

98TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 135

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that it should take certain steps to ensure the integrity of the civil service retirement system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 1983

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. BARNES, Mr. DICKS, Mr. DIXON, Mr. DWYER of New Jersey, Mr. FAUNTROY, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. HOWARD, Mr. HOYER, Mr. MATSUI, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WASHINGTON, and Mr. WON PAT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that it should take certain steps to ensure the integrity of the civil service retirement system.

Whereas the Congress is currently considering a proposal to extend social security coverage to new Federal and postal hires, a plan which together with past and pending modifications of the Federal retirement system may threaten the quality of candidates for Federal and postal employment;

Whereas such activities could jeopardize the integrity of the current civil service retirement system, a key element of Federal Government recruitment, and engender uncertainty for millions of Americans currently or prospectively dependent upon civil service retirement annuities;

Whereas the strength of economic recovery depends upon a quality Federal workforce able to implement general and emergency measures enacted by the Congress;

Whereas changes proposed in the budget for the 1984 fiscal year with respect to civil service retirement could undermine Federal functions, rob agencies of key personnel, and inhibit the Federal Government's ability to provide critical services; and

Whereas the Congress, as Board of Directors of the Federal service, should honor its commitments to compensate Federal and postal employees without diminishing earned benefits to such employees: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the House of Representatives should take all
2 necessary steps to ensure that—

4 (1) commitments to the integrity of the existing
5 civil service retirement system are honored;

6 (2) safeguards set forth in the Omnibus Budget
7 Reconciliation Act of 1981 continue to protect Federal
8 and postal retirees against future economic uncertainties;
9 ties;

10 (3) in the event that social security coverage is
11 extended to Federal and postal employees, the total of
12 social security and civil service retirement benefits
13 should equal the full actuarial value of benefits payable
14 on January 1, 1983, to current retirees;

15 (4) future obligations of the existing civil service
16 retirement system are met, and that the existing civil

1 service retirement trust's future obligations are fully
2 amortized;

3 (5) compensation for past services, including com-
4 pensation in the form of retirement benefits, should not
5 be devalued after it is earned;

6 (6) Federal and postal employees may take all
7 contributions made during their Federal employment
8 with them when they leave Federal service;

9 (7) rates for Federal and postal employee contri-
10 butions toward their retirement should increase only to
11 the extent that benefits are correspondingly increased;
12 and

13 (8) negotiations with respect to a proposed supple-
14 mentary retirement program for new Federal and
15 postal employees, if such negotiations become neces-
16 sary, proceed in a manner that is responsive to issues
17 of concern to Federal and postal employees and their
18 representatives.

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